

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3062

To authorize appropriations to provide for South Pacific exchanges, provide technical and other assistance to countries in the Pacific region through the United States Agency for International Development, and authorize appropriations to provide Fulbright Scholarships for Pacific Island students.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 17, 2007

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To authorize appropriations to provide for South Pacific exchanges, provide technical and other assistance to countries in the Pacific region through the United States Agency for International Development, and authorize appropriations to provide Fulbright Scholarships for Pacific Island students.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “South Pacific Eco-
5 nomic and Educational Development Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. SOUTH PACIFIC EXCHANGES.**

2 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
3 retary of State \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008
4 and 2009 for South Pacific exchanges carried out under
5 the educational and cultural exchange programs of the De-
6 partment of State.

7 **SEC. 3. USAID IN THE PACIFIC REGION.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the United
9 States Agency for International Development (USAID)
10 shall, upon request by the government of a country in the
11 Pacific region, provide to such government technical and
12 other assistance.

13 (b) COUNTRY IN THE PACIFIC REGION DEFINED.—
14 In this section, the term “country in the Pacific region”
15 means any of the following countries:

- 16 (1) The Cook Islands.
- 17 (2) The Federated States of Micronesia.
- 18 (3) The Independent State of Samoa.
- 19 (4) The Kingdom of Tonga.
- 20 (5) Niue.
- 21 (6) Papua New Guinea.
- 22 (7) The Republic of Fiji.
- 23 (8) The Republic of Kiribati.
- 24 (9) The Republic of the Marshall Islands.
- 25 (10) The Republic of Nauru.
- 26 (11) The Republic of Palau.

1 (12) The Republic of Vanuatu.

2 (13) The Solomon Islands.

3 (14) Tuvalu.

4 **SEC. 4. J. FULBRIGHT EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE PRO-**
5 **GRAM.**

6 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

7 (1) From 1949 until 2003, the Department of
8 State awarded 13,176 Fulbright Scholarships to stu-
9 dents from East Asia and the Pacific, but only 31
10 Fulbright Scholarships went to Pacific Island stu-
11 dents.

12 (2) In the 2003–2004 academic year, the De-
13 partment of State awarded 315 scholarships to stu-
14 dents from East Asia and the Pacific, but none were
15 awarded to Pacific Island students.

16 (b) REVIEW AND REPORT.—The Secretary of State
17 shall conduct a review and submit to the Committee on
18 Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the
19 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report
20 regarding the marginalization of Pacific Island students
21 in the awarding of Fulbright Scholarships.

22 (c) PARTICIPATION OF PACIFIC ISLAND STUDENTS
23 IN THE J. FULBRIGHT EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGE PRO-
24 GRAM.—

1 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of State
2 shall establish an annual one-year program within
3 the J. William Fulbright Educational Exchange Pro-
4 gram (established under section 112(a)(1) of the
5 Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of
6 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2460(a)(1)), commonly referred to
7 as the Fulbright-Hays Act) to make awards to Pa-
8 cific Island students to permit such students to
9 study in the United States pursuant to the terms
10 and conditions of such Exchange Program.

11 (2) OPERATION AND NUMBERS.—The govern-
12 ments of Pacific Island countries may annually sub-
13 mit to the Secretary of State the names of between
14 three and five Pacific Island students to participate
15 in the one-year program established under para-
16 graph (1).

17 (3) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In
18 addition to amounts that are otherwise authorized to
19 be appropriated to the Secretary of State for fiscal
20 years 2008 and 2009 to provide awards under the
21 J. William Fulbright Educational Exchange Pro-
22 gram, there is authorized to be appropriated to the
23 Secretary \$500,000 for each of such fiscal years to
24 provide such awards to Pacific Island students.

1 (d) PACIFIC ISLAND STUDENTS DEFINED.—In this
2 Act, the term “Pacific Island students” means a student
3 who is a citizen of any of the following countries:

- 4 (1) The Cook Islands.
- 5 (2) The Federated States of Micronesia.
- 6 (3) The Independent State of Samoa.
- 7 (4) The Kingdom of Tonga.
- 8 (5) Niue.
- 9 (6) Papua New Guinea.
- 10 (7) The Republic of Fiji.
- 11 (8) The Republic of Kiribati.
- 12 (9) The Republic of the Marshall Islands.
- 13 (10) The Republic of Nauru.
- 14 (11) The Republic of Palau.
- 15 (12) The Republic of Vanuatu.
- 16 (13) The Solomon Islands.
- 17 (14) Tuvalu.

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